



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO.  | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/659,617   | 09/10/2003  | Roger C. Thede       | 01845.0022-US-C1    | 5568             |
| 22865  | 7590        | 10/17/2006           | EXAMINER            |                  |
| ALTERA LAW GROUP, LLC<br>6500 CITY WEST PARKWAY<br>SUITE 100<br>MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55344-7704 |             |                      | MALLARI, PATRICIA C |                  |
|  |             |                      | ART UNIT            | PAPER NUMBER     |
|  |             |                      | 3735                |                  |

DATE MAILED: 10/17/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

|   |                     |              |  |
|---|---------------------|--------------|--|
| <b>Response to Rule 312 Communication</b> | Application No.     | Applicant(s) |  |
|   | 10/659,617          | THEDE ET AL. |  |
|   | Examiner            | Art Unit     |  |
|   | Patricia C. Mallari | 3735         |  |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

1. ☒ The amendment filed on 26 September 2006 under 37 CFR 1.312 has been considered, and has been:

- a) ☐ entered.
- b) ☒ entered as directed to matters of form not affecting the scope of the invention.
- c) ☐ disapproved because the amendment was filed after the payment of the issue fee.

Any amendment filed after the date the issue fee is paid must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.313(c)(1) and the required fee to withdraw the application from issue.

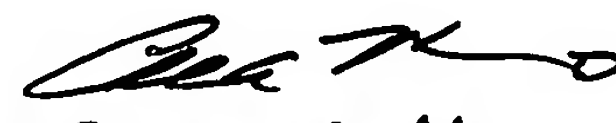
- d) ☐ disapproved. See explanation below.
- e) ☐ entered in part. See explanation below.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Patricia C. Mallari whose telephone number is (571) 272-4729. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 10:00 am-6:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Marmor, II can be reached on (571) 272-4730. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

pcw

  
Charles A. Marmor, II  
SPE, Art Unit 3735